

WASHINGTON.

Southern Democrats Capture the Morning Hour.

WAR CLAIMS.

Internal Improvements Needed for the South.

THE ARMY BILL.

Favorable Exhibit from the National Treasury.

SENATORS AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1879.

HOW THE SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS EMPLOYED THE MORNING HOUR—THE SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN DEMOCRATS.

The Southern men captured and occupied the morning hour to-day in the House and gave a severe disappointment to the expectant republicans by the speeches they made. General Hooker's remarks were moderate, sensible and wise, and his speech won the praises of everybody. General Chalmers evidently intended to be extremely severe, but his sarcasms were too elaborate to be effective. Mr. Singleton, who closed the morning hour, got the whole House into thorough good humor by a speech which was a good deal of the South on the ground that it had furnished in other times more Presidents and Cabinet officers to the country than any other section. On the whole the discussion did good and hurt nobody.

QUESTION OF DISPENSING WITH TROOPS AT POLLING PLACES—A PARTY CONTENT.

Section 2,002 of the Revised Statutes forbids any military or naval officer to station troops at the polls on election day, "unless it be necessary to repel the armed enemies of the United States, or to keep the peace at the polls." The Appropriations Committee have appended to the Army bill a clause striking out the words, "or to keep the peace at the polls," on the ground that this leaves a dangerous discretion with the local or military commanders. It is believed that there will be no general opposition on the republican side to repealing these words, because they evidently contradict the plain intention of the body of the section, but the democrats are inclined to insist on the repeal, and there is a possibility of some debate on the question.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE FRONTIER FORTS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1879.

A telegram was received at the War Department this afternoon announcing that telegraphic communication was now opened between Forts Elliott, Custer, Keogh and Buford, and connecting with Blamark and Deadwood. This gives telegraphic communication with nearly all of the frontier forts.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1879.

SENATORS WHO WOULD ALLOW WOMEN TO VOTE.

The report of the minority of the Privileges and Elections Committee of the Senate on the resolution proposing a "Woman suffrage amendment to the constitution" is signed by Senators Horner, Mitchell and Cameron of Wisconsin. The report starts out with the proposition that the constitution, the writings of Jefferson, the Virginia bill of rights, the Massachusetts bill of rights and all other asserted equality of man, and that the experience of a hundred years has strengthened the hold of these principles upon the popular conviction. Our fathers failed in three particulars to carry out their principles to a logical result—a property qualification for the right to vote was required, they kept the negro in slavery and excluded women from a share in the government. The first two errors have been remedied. The American people are committed to the doctrine of universal suffrage and must stand by it. Popular standards of excellence, but by comparison with other forms of government. The crimes that have stained our history have come chiefly from its failure, not from its establishment. The negro government and corruption of our great cities have been largely due to men whose birth and training have been under other systems. The abuses attributed by political hostility to negro governments at the South, governments from which the intelligence and education of the State held themselves aloof, do not equal those which existed under the English or French aristocracies within the memory of living men. There have been crimes, blunders, complications and follies in the history of our Republic, but few of these things have been due to the extension of suffrage. It is taken for granted that no person will deny that the women of America are inspired with a love of country equal to that which animates their brothers and sons. A capacity to judge of a character so sure and rapid as to be termed intuitive. The special characteristics of women. The report expresses the belief that in the determining of public policies by the collective judgment of the State, which constitutes self-government, the contribution to be of great importance and value. The conclusion, then, is, that the American people must extend the right of suffrage to women or abandon the idea that suffrage is a birthright. The arguments of the majority report (submitted to the Senate last session) are then taken up and answered at considerable length by the minority. The two bills now pending before the Coinage Committee of the House on making trade dollars exchangeable for legal tender silver dollars, and the other authorizing the coinage of the gold metric dollar and fractions thereof will be reported to the House on Thursday evening next. The committee are much divided on these measures, and, in order that the opponents may have an opportunity of offering their objections before the bills are reported to the House, it has been agreed that they be reported without recommendation either way.

SHORT SESSION OF THE POTTER COMMITTEE.

The Potter Investigating Committee met this morning at twelve o'clock. Mr. Morrison (in the absence of Mr. Potter, who left on Friday evening for New York) taking the chair, Isaac B. Hill was called and testified that he was one of the deputy sergeants-at-arms who went to New Orleans with the sub-committee; he recollected Duha being examined and was positive that both St. Martin and Gibson were present in the rooming while that witness was giving his testimony; he never saw Maddox or Carter there; it was his duty to attend the entrance into the rooming in the committee room, and this was "pretty much all the heavy work" he was called upon to do; witness talked about Duha's testimony to St. Martin, but could not recollect any part of the conversation; he knew St. Martin to be a good democrat; he had no knowledge as to any of the witnesses were being influenced by offers of money. Mr. Hill's evidence being offered Mr. Hiseock moved that the committee adjourn to Monday. Mr. Stenger observed that Mr. Potter might not return in time on Monday morning, and suggested that an adjournment be taken until Tuesday. To this Mr. Hiseock agreed and the committee then rose after a sitting of only half an hour.

PACARD'S FIRM FOR JACK WHARTON.

The following letter has been received here—

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 1, 1879.

MY DEAR SIR—

I have observed in the papers of the United States various reports of the intended re-

nominal of Marshal Jackson Wharton from his office.

I know nothing of the details of the late election in Louisiana, but I am quite unwilling to accept the statement of the newspapers that Marshal Wharton has been removed from his office. I am sure that Marshal Wharton's removal, as reported to me, for want of fidelity to the party, is a gross mistake. I am sure that Marshal Wharton, at least, and during the winter of 1876-77 he was steady, and no amount of testimony from such a source as I understand his removal will convince me that he cannot be relied upon.

Your marshal and District Attorney for the district of Louisiana, in my judgment, are entirely correct in their judgment, and in their duty to the State and are discharging their duty faithfully. I should much regret if they did not have the confidence of the administration and merit that confidence as they have the confidence of the republican masses of Louisiana, by a faithful discharge of duty. I earnestly hope that you will not feel called upon to recommend to the President to make a change in the Marshal's office of Louisiana during the term of the incumbent.

S. B. PACARD, Attorney General.

THE SUB-TREASURER COMMITTEE.

The Sub-Committee of the Teller Investigating Committee, Messrs. Teller, Cameron, of Wisconsin; Kirkwood, McDonald and Randolph, who have been conducting the investigation in the South, returned to this city yesterday. A meeting will be held on Monday next for the purpose of hearing the testimony of Messrs. Mackey, O'Donnell and Campbell, with regard to the alleged frauds at the late election in the district of Charleston, S. C.

PURCHASE OF THE NEW PERCHES LANDS.

Attention is called in the annual report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the fact that the Nez Percés have never ceded their lands in Idaho to the government. As a result of the visit of Chief Joseph, who left the city last night, the specific terms upon which the tribe will make this cession of about forty-eight hundred square miles have been determined—six townships in the Indian Territory and \$250,000 in money, to be placed in the Treasury and to draw four per cent interest are asked. The Interior Department agrees to the terms, and Congress will be asked to make the necessary appropriations. When the Commissioner of Indian Affairs was in the Indian Territory he travelled with Joseph through the territory, and a location west of the Ponca reservation pleased them both the best. If Congress ratifies the agreement with Joseph it is likely that this land will be selected by the Nez Percés.

A NATIONAL SURVEY.

The Secretary of War transmitted to the Senate yesterday a letter from General Humphreys, Chief of Engineers, respecting the plan of a national survey proposed by the National Academy of Sciences. General Humphreys reviews the letter of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, which suggested that there was some misapprehension on the General's part as to the cost of the completed survey work, which, adopting the report of General Comstock, had been taken by General Humphreys for a square mile, on which both topographical and triangulation work had been executed at \$244 per square mile. This result followed from the official reports of the Coast Survey for the five years between 1863 and 1868, but a note was attached to it stating that the amount was so large that it suggested the possibility of error in the data, or that some of the triangulation was done within areas previously reported. The Superintendent stated in effect that the apparent error of cost in the survey work for that period had increased by the diversion of the coast survey force from its ordinary duties. General Comstock had accordingly made an estimate for the fourteen years between 1838 and 1872, the longest period, it is believed, for which the necessary coast survey data had been published, and had pointed out that any one would be gravely in error who took the costs mentioned by the Superintendent of the Coast Survey in his letter as giving any correct idea of the total cost per square mile of the published coast survey maps. General Humphreys, after a long review of the subject, concludes by saying that, after a careful reading of the Superintendent's letter, he has been unable to find any evidence of such misapprehension, and adds:—"The results obtained differ very widely from the \$244 per square mile for triangulation, and \$35 per square mile for topography, which a careful review of the data derived from the letter of the Superintendent. They give no reason for supposing that a national survey can be executed at costs less than stated in my letter on that subject of October 25, 1875, namely—\$48,200 for a rough topographical survey based on astronomical determinations, \$244,000 for a rough topographical survey based on triangulation, \$108,000 for a thorough cadastral survey, the area considered being that only of States admitted before 1860, excluding California, Texas and Oregon."

COMMISSIONER GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary of War also transmitted to the Senate a communication from Commissioner General McCreedy, showing that his department would be thoroughly crippled should the organization for the department recommended by the Burnside bill be adopted, as it would be unable properly and economically to perform the duties devolving upon it by law.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a recapitulation of the public debt statement, issued to-day—

Interest Bearing Debt.

Bonds at 6 per cent..... \$650,800,000 00

Bonds at 5 per cent..... 703,300,000 00

Bonds at 4 per cent..... 250,000,000 00

Bonds at 3 per cent..... 330,700,000 00

Navy pension fund..... 14,000,000 00

Total principal..... \$1,938,800,000 00

Interest..... 22,935,869 48

Debt on Which Interest Has Ceased Since March 1861.

Principal..... \$6,000,000 00

Interest..... 39,022 80

Debt Bearing No Interest.

Old demand and legal tender notes..... \$346,743,031 00

Certificates of deposit..... 40,940,000 00

Fractional currency..... 16,025,493 73

Gold and silver certificates..... 20,187,860 00

Principal..... \$423,908,404 73

Unclaimed Pacific Railroad stock..... 8,197 03

Total Debt.

Principal..... \$2,382,328,126 96

Interest..... 23,021,69 49

Total..... \$2,405,349,826 39

Total cash in the Treasury..... \$32,430,000 00

Debt Less Cash in the Treasury.

February 1, 1879..... \$2,372,919,826 39

January 1, 1879..... \$2,368,648,111 02

Decrease of debt during month.....

\$2,751,980 66

Decrease of debt since Jan. 1, 1879..... \$9,898,111 29

Current Liabilities.

Interest due and unpaid..... \$6,989,280 36

Debt on which interest has ceased..... 6,000,000 00

Interest thereon..... 39,022 80

Gold and silver certificates..... 20,187,860 00

United States notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit..... 40,940,000 00

United States notes held for redemption of fractional currency..... 8,500,224 00

Called bonds not matured, for which four per cent bonds have been issued..... 157,161,950 00

Cash balance available February 1, 1879..... 143,672,049 94

Total..... \$282,430,005 96

Available Assets.

Cash in the Treasury..... \$32,430,000 00

Bonds loaned to Pacific Railroad Company—Interest payable to Treasury..... \$10,456,128 97

Principal outstanding..... \$64,620,512 00

Interest accrued and not yet paid..... 321,175 22

Interest repaid by transportation of mails..... 10,657,038 13

Balance on hand by the Treasury..... 31,115,717 02

TREASURY NOTES.

The internal revenue receipts to-day were \$256,634 00, and the customs receipts \$318,215 95.

The receipts of national bank notes for redemption for the week ending to-day, as compared with the corresponding period last year, are as follows:—

1878. 1879.

New York..... \$887,000 \$863,000

Boston..... 1,372,000 1,372,000

Philadelphia..... 225,000 100,000

Miscellaneous..... 1,088,000 620,000

Total..... \$3,720,000 \$2,953,000

Receipts to-day, \$320,000.

The payments made from the Treasury by warrants during the month of January, 1879, were as follows:—

On account of civil and miscellaneous..... \$5,880,566 62

On account of war..... 2,621,675 80

On account of navy..... 975,669 73

On account of interior (Indians and pensioners)..... 978,256 70

Total..... \$10,456,128 97

The net increase of cash in the Treasury during the month of January is \$200,742 23; cash obligations paid during the month, \$32,478,000 00, including \$1,571,725 in United States notes redeemed in coin.

The subscriptions to the four per cent loan since yesterday's report have amounted to \$1,691,800.

At the Treasury to-day nearly all persons applying for interest have taken greenbacks in preference to gold.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day made another call for the redemption of \$20,000,000 five-twenty bonds, consols of 1867, in equal proportions, registered and coupon bonds. Interest will cease on May 1. The numbers of the bonds will be published on Monday.

The National Bank of Boston, Boston, Mass., has been designated as a depository of public money to receive deposits on account of subscriptions to the four per cent loan.

SHERMAN'S INSEPARABLE FINANCIAL TWIN.

The following statement has been prepared by a very prominent officer of the government—

Resumption and refunding are inseparably connected as were the Siamese twins. Refunding did not proceed in a feeble and sickly way into five and four-cent loans, but went on to build up a strong and vigorous body by the sale of four per cent bonds, but the sale of four per cent bonds was impossible until the purpose to resume refunding was announced, and as the four per cent bonds were accumulated for that purpose by the sale of four and a half per cent bonds. What has been the result? Gold was steadily accumulating, and four per cent bonds proceeded more rapidly as gold increased in value. By the sale of \$20,000,000 of four per cent bonds on the 1st of January, 1877, and prior to resumption of the 1st of January, 1877, \$4,749,791 of bonds were sold for resumption purposes at a cost in interest of \$3,925,000 a year. During the same time \$25,000,000 of four per cent bonds were sold for refunding purposes, with a saving of \$3,701,700 a year. Resumption came on the day appointed without a hitch. The four per cent bonds were sold for an unexpired rate of \$108,000,000 during the month of January, with a saving of \$3,701,700 a year.

The balance sheet now stands thus:

Saving and refunding..... \$4,749,791

Loss of annual interest by resumption since May 1, 1877..... 3,925,000

Balance of interest thus far..... \$2,824,791

Balance of interest at four per cent on a capital sum of \$7,619,725.

From this time on these kindred operations will produce no loss, but a gain as follows:

On refunding balance of five-twenty bonds..... \$3,961,586

On refunding ten-forties..... 1,945,693

Or a net gain in annual interest, including amount already refunded, of..... \$782,040

This is but the immediate gain, while the incident of the four per cent bonds now being resumption a fixed coin standard of value, without which real prosperity is unattainable.

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